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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/702,192

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Christopher Alan Tutt

TEN / 63

7102

26875

7590

02/08/2005

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EXAMINER

DINH, PHUONG K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/702,192

Applicant(s)

TUTT, CHRISTOPHER ALAN

Examiner

Phuong KT Dinh

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 25-28 and 36-44 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18, 22-24 and 29-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 17 and 19-21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities:
2. Claim 3, "the at" should be deleted.
3. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-8, 10-18, 22- 24 and 29-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Driscoll (U. S. Patent 6,843,657) in view of Lambert (U. S. Patent 5,795,162).
6. Regarding claims 1, 6, 22-24 and 29-35, Driscoll see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses a connector comprising: a signal array having at least one shielded conductor 128 having opposite ends and including an axial conductive element 120 and an outer conductive element 122 surrounding the axial conductive element and two interposes 30, 32. Driscoll discloses a compressible interface element positioned at least one of the opposite ends of the signal array, but does not disclose the interface element including a layer of insulating material having a plurality of conductive elements extending through the insulating material layer, the compressible. Lambert discloses a

compressible interface element 40 including a layer of insulating material having a plurality of conductive elements extending through the insulating material layer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Driscoll to provide the compressible element including a layer of insulating material having a plurality of conductive elements extending through the insulating material layer as taught by Lambert so as to provide for more reliable contacting.

7. Regarding claim 2, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses the at least one shielded conductor is a length of semi-rigid coax.

8. Regarding claim 3, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses the at least one shielded conductor is a length semi-rigid twinax.

9. Regarding claim 4, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses a fastener 1503 used to compress the compressible interface elements to maintain the geometric arrangement of the axial conductive element and the outer conductive element through the insulating material layer to the signal bearing component.

10. Regarding claim 5, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses a signal bearing component including at least one land area; the land area configured for coupling with the axial conductive element and the outer conductive element of the shield conductor.

11. Regarding claim 7, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses the first signal bearing component is a circuit board including at least one land area: the land area configured for coupling with the axial conductive element and the outer conductive element of the shield conductor.

12. Regarding claim 8, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses the second signal bearing component is a circuit board including at least one land area: the land area configured for coupling with the axial conductive element and the outer conductive element of the shield conductor; the land areas on the first and second circuit boards corresponding.
13. Regarding claims 10-12, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses the circuit boards are substantially orthogonal.
14. Regarding claims 13, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses the signal array includes multiple shielded conductors.
15. Regarding claim 14-16, Driscoll, see figures 1A, 1B, 14 and 16, discloses the multiple shielded conductors 128 are molded into at least one block.
16. Claims 1, 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pluymers (U. S. Patent 6,590,478) in view of Lambert.
17. Regarding claims 1 and 9, Pluymers discloses a connector comprising: a signal array having at least one shielded conductor 130 having opposite ends and including an axial conductive element 310 and an outer conductive element 340 surrounding the axial conductive element. Pluymers discloses the claimed invention except for a compressible interface element, and the compressible interface element positioned at least one of the opposite ends of the signal array, but does not disclose the interface element including a layer of insulating material having a plurality of conductive elements extending through the insulating material layer, the compressible. Lambert discloses a compressible interface element 40 including a layer of insulating material having a

plurality of conductive elements extending through the insulating material layer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Pluymers to provide the compressible element including a layer of insulating material having a plurality of conductive elements extending through the insulating material layer as taught by Lambert so as to provide for more reliable contacting.

Allowable Subject Matter

18. Claims 17, 19-21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

19. None of the reference discloses a clip; the multiple shielded conductors molded into multiple blocks, the clip configured to hold the multiple blocks in alignment under pressure. The multiple shielded conductors are molded multiple wafer forming mounting ends on each wafer.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong KT Dinh whose telephone number is 571-272-2090. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 -5, 5 days a week.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phuong Dinh', is written over the printed name.

Phuong Dinh
January 31, 2005.